

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 PRS-01 USSS-00 /026 W

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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2556

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 1939

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: OTRA, PFOR, KS, US

SUBJECT: TRAVEL TO U.S. BY ASSEMBLYMAN OH SEYONG

1. ASSEMBLYMAN OH, SEYONG (HENRY OH) HAS REQUESTED ME TO PASS FOLLOWING MESSAGE AND REQUEST TO THE DEPARTMENT.

A. OH INTENDS TO LEAVE KOREA AROUND THE 22ND OF MARCH ON HIS WAY TO IPU IN AUSTRALIA. AFTER THAT CONFERENCE HE HOPES TO GO THE UNITED STATES FOR ONE OF HIS BI-ANNUAL VISITS.

B. AFTER LEAVING KOREA HE WILL ATTEMPT TO CONTACT WILLIAM MONDALE, BROTHER OF THE VICE PRESIDENT, WHO WAS OH'S CLASSMATE AT HAMLINE UNIVERSITY.

C. OH WILL REQUEST WILLIAM MONDALE TO SET UP AN APPOINTMENT WITH THE VICE PRESIDENT. HE WOULD LIKE THE APPOINTMENT FOR SOMETIME AFTER APRIL 20. HE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THE DEPARTMENT SUPPORT THAT REQUEST.

D. IF THE APPOINTMENT IS MADE, OH WOULD WISH TO GIVE IT PUBLICITY, INCLUDING BRINGING OWN PHOTOGRAPHER ALONG FOR PICTURES.

2. COMMENT: OH VIEWS THE CURRENT VISIT OF LEE CHUL SUNG (SEPTOL) TO HAVE MISLED THE AMERICAN PUBLIC ON THE POSITION OF THE OPPOSITION PARTY IN KOREA. HE WOULD LIKE TO
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ATTEMPT TO STRAIGHTEN THE RECORD. FURTHERMORE, HE WOULD LIKE TO BE ABLE UPON RETURN TO KOREA TO PRESENT THE U.S. ADMINISTRATION'S VIEWS ON KOREA. HE FEELS THAT HIS CREDIBILITY IN DOING SO WOULD BE GREATLY ENHANCED IF HE COULD REFER TO CONVERSATION WITH THE VICE PRESIDENT.

3. THIS IS A PLAUSIBLE RATIONALE. ON THE OTHER HAND,

OH ALSO TOLD ME THAT HE FEELS THAT HIS PARTY, UNDER PRESSURE FROM KCIA, IS PLANNING TO PURGE HIM AND THEREBY "KILL OFF" HIS POLITICAL CAREER. UNDOUBTEDLY, ANY MEETINGS HE MIGHT HAVE WITH THE VICE PRESIDENT WILL HELP HIM TO FORESTALL THIS POSSIBILITY.

4. ACTION REQUESTED. PLEASE ADVISE BEFORE MARCH 20 THE RESPONSE I SHOULD GIVE ASSEMBLYMAN OH TO HIS REQUEST.
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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 10-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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